

Cynthia Bridges Executive Director www.boe.ca.gov

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For Immediate Release September 8, 2014 Contact: Yating Campbell 1-916-327-8988

## BOE Member Betty T. Yee Invites Residents to Local Assistance Center for Napa Earthquake Recovery

**Sacramento** – California State Board of Equalization (BOE) Member Betty T. Yee is <u>reaching out to taxpayers</u> affected by the 6.0-magnitude earthquake that struck the Napa Valley on August 24, and letting them know that assistance will be available to affected residents and business owners from September 8 through September 13 at the Napa Local Assistance Center (LAC).

"As residents and businesses continue to assess the damage from this devastating earthquake and resume their daily lives, they should know the BOE is prepared to help," Member Yee said.

Taxpayers in Napa, Solano, and Sonoma counties may be eligible for extensions on tax filings, audits, billings, and assessments, and possible relief from penalties and interest on taxes and fees administered by the BOE. BOE staff can answer taxpayers' questions about these and other related matters. Businesses in the wine industry impacted by the earthquake will have the opportunity to receive assistance with excise tax questions they might have regarding lost or damaged product or other circumstances affecting their business.

BOE is one of several state agencies that will staff the LAC to help those who may have lost important tax and other documents, or who may need assistance with rebuilding their homes or business properties. The response to the August 24 earthquake has been a statewide effort, with Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. declaring a <u>state of emergency</u>, issuing an <u>executive order</u> to allow faster unemployment benefits and free copies of many state records for impacted residents, and <u>requesting federal aid from President Barack Obama</u>. The Governor's Office of Emergency Services has been coordinating the <u>response to the earthquake</u>.

**Event:** Napa Local Assistance Center (LAC)

**Date:** September 8, 2014 – September 13, 2014

**Time:** Monday through Friday: 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.; Saturday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Place: 301 1st Street (corner of 1st Street and Silverado Trail)

Napa, CA 94559

Spanish-language assistance will be provided on request.

Those unable to visit the LAC can go <u>online</u> to request relief from penalties and/or interest, and an extension of time to file a tax/fee return. Any tax or feepayer can use the online system to make their request for the tax and fee programs listed below. Tax and feepayers may also call the BOE Customer Service Center toll-free at 1-800-400-7115 (TTY: 711), Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Pacific time), for assistance.

Sales and Use Taxes	Oil Spill Prevention and Administration Fee; Oil
	Spill Response Fee

Fire Prevention Fee	Lumber Assessment
Alcoholic Beverage Taxes	Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Fee
Cigarettes and Tobacco Products Excise Taxes	Integrated Waste Management Fee
Energy Resources Surcharge	Occupational Lead Poisoning Prevention Fee
Emergency Telephone Users Surcharge	Electronic Waste Recycling (eWaste) Fee
Natural Gas Surcharge	Marine Invasive Species Fee (Ballast Water
	Management Fee)
Timber Yield Tax	California Tire Fee
Fuel Taxes (Diesel Fuel Tax, Interstate User Tax,	Hazardous Substances Fees (Environmental Fee,
Use Fuel Tax, Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax, Aircraft Jet	Activity Fee, Generator Fee, Disposal Fee, Facility
Fuel)	Fee)
Underground Storage Tank Maintenance Fee	Water Rights Fee

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Board Member Betty T. Yee was elected to her post in November 2006. Her district includes many of California's coastal counties, from Del Norte to Santa Barbara, and includes the entire San Francisco Bay Area. Ms. Yee previously served as Chief Deputy Director for Budget at the California Department of Finance, covering a wide array of state and local finance policy matters.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization (BOE) is a publicly elected tax board. The BOE collects \$56 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and serves a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes. For more information on other taxes and fees in California, visit www.taxes.ca.gov.

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State Board of Equalization • 450 N Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 • 1-800-400-7115

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